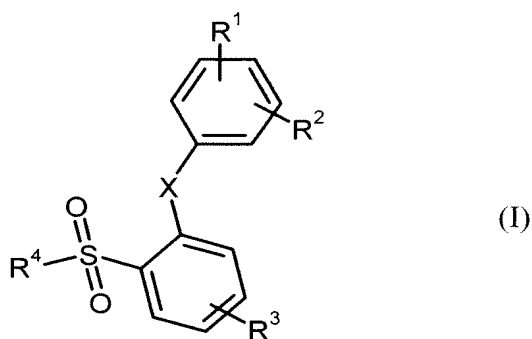


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~compound~~~~benzenesulfonamide derivative~~ of the formula (I), its tautomeric or stereoisomeric form, or a salt thereof:



wherein

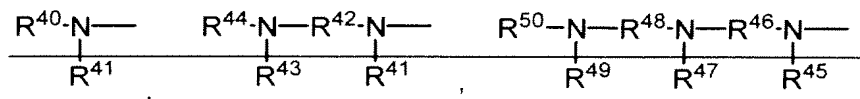
X represents O or S;

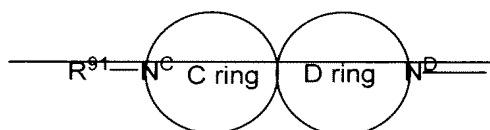
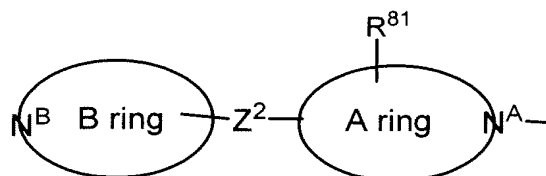
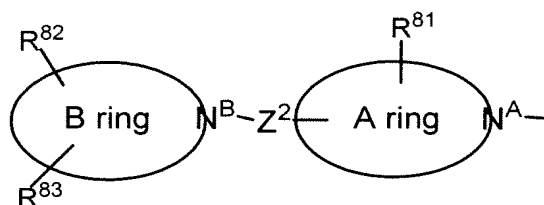
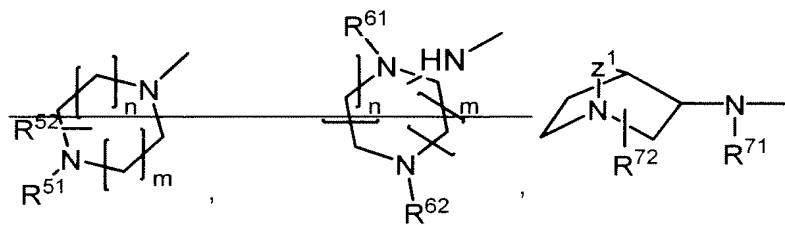
R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, cyano, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl)amino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkanoyl, phenyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by mono-, di- or tri- halogen, or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy optionally substituted by mono-, di- or tri- halogen;

R<sup>2</sup> represents hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, cyano, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl)amino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkanoyl, phenyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by mono-, di- or tri- halogen, or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy optionally substituted by mono-, di- or tri- halogen;

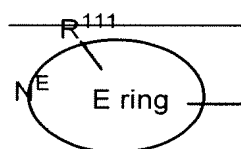
R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, cyano, amino, carboxy, tetrazolyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkanoyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkanoylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by mono-, di- or tri- halogen or hydroxy;

R<sup>4</sup> represents





or



wherein:

$R^{40}$  represents  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl substituted by pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl wherein said pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl are optionally substituted by mono or di-oxo, 7-oxa-bicyclo[4.1.0]hept-3-yl optionally having 1 or 2 substituents selected from the group consisting of amino,  $(C_{1-6}$ -alkyl)amino and di $(C_{1-6}$ -alkyl)amino, or a 5 to 8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring containing 1 or 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N and O and optionally having from 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino, oxo and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

$R^{41}$ —represents hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl optionally substituted by amino,  $C_{1-6}$ —alkylamino, di( $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl)amino, or 2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-1-yl, or a  $C_{5-8}$ —cycloalkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy,  
—or

$R^{40}$  and  $R^{41}$  may form, together with adjacent N atom, a 5 to 8 membered saturated—heterocyclic ring optionally interrupted by NH or O, wherein said 5 to 8—membered saturated heterocyclic ring is substituted by mono— or di—oxo;

$R^{42}$ —represents  $C_{1-6}$ -alkylene optionally substituted by hydroxy or carboxy, or a  $C_{5-8}$ —cycloalkyl substituted by at least one hydroxy and moreover optionally 1 or 2—substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino, oxo and— $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  
—or

$R^{41}$  and  $R^{42}$  may form, together with adjacent N atom, a 5 to 8 membered saturated—heterocyclic ring optionally interrupted by NH or O, wherein said 5 to 8—membered saturated heterocyclic ring is substituted by mono— or di—oxo;  
—with the proviso that when  $R^{41}$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl optionally substituted by—amino,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkylamino or di( $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl)amino,  $R^{42}$  is hydroxy substituted  $C_{1-6}$ —alkylene or carboxy substituted  $C_{1-6}$ -alkylene,

$R^{43}$ —represents hydrogen, or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or—carboxy,

$R^{44}$ —represents hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or—carboxy,

with the proviso that when  $R^{41}$  and  $R^{42}$  form together with adjacent N atom a 5 to 8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring substituted by mono— or di—oxo,  $R^{44}$  represents hydroxy substituted  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl or carboxy substituted  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,

$R^{45}$ ,  $R^{47}$ ,  $R^{49}$  and  $R^{50}$  independently represent hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,

$R^{46}$  and  $R^{48}$  independently represent  $C_{1-6}$ -alkylene optionally substituted hydroxy or—carboxy,

n—represents an integer selected from 1 to 3,

m—represents an integer selected from 0 to 3;

$R^{51}$ —represents hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, or a 3 to 8 membered saturated ring optionally—interrupted by NH or O,

$R^{52}$ —represents hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkoxy, carbonyl or alkyl substituted by

~~—carboxy, amino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkylsulfonyl)amino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkanoyl)amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>~~  
~~—alkoxycarbonyl, tetrazolyl, triazolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, indolyl,~~  
~~—isoindolyl, pyrrolidinyl optionally substituted by mono- or di-oxo, or~~  
~~—piperidinyl optionally substituted by mono- or di-oxo;~~  
with the proviso that when R<sup>51</sup> and R<sup>52</sup> are hydrogen at the same time, R<sup>3</sup> is tetrazolyl  
or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkanoyl, or when R<sup>51</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, R<sup>52</sup> is other than hydrogen;  
R<sup>61</sup> and R<sup>62</sup> independently represent hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl optionally substituted by  
~~—hydroxy, carboxy, phenyl or mono-, di- or tri-halogen;~~  
R<sup>71</sup> represents hydrogen, or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by amino, hydroxy,  
carboxy, pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl, wherein said pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl  
are optionally substituted by mono- or di-oxo;  
R<sup>72</sup> represents hydrogen, carboxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkanoyl, amino, (C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkyl) amino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino carbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by  
hydroxy, carboxy, or mono-, di- or tri- halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy optionally  
substituted by mono-, di- or tri- halogen, pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl, wherein  
said pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl are optionally substituted by mono- or di-  
oxo;  
Z<sup>1</sup> represents —[CH<sub>2</sub>]<sub>p</sub>—, wherein p represents an integer 1 or 2;  
R<sup>81</sup> represents hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxycarbonyl, or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl substituted by  
pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl, wherein said pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl are  
optionally substituted by mono- or di-oxo;  
R<sup>82</sup> represents hydrogen, hydroxy, carboxy or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl substituted by hydroxy,  
amino, or carboxy,  
R<sup>83</sup> represents hydrogen, hydroxy, carboxy or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl substituted by hydroxy,  
amino, or carboxy,  
with the proviso that when R<sup>81</sup> is hydrogen, R<sup>82</sup> or R<sup>83</sup> is other than hydrogen;  
Z<sup>2</sup> represents —[CH<sub>2</sub>]<sub>q</sub>—, wherein q represents an integer selected from 0 to 3;  
~~R<sup>91</sup>—represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl optionally substituted by phenyl;~~  
~~R<sup>111</sup>—represents hydrogen, carboxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkoxy carbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkanoyl, N-~~  
~~—(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl) aminocarbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkoxy optionally substituted by mono-, di- or~~  
~~—tri-halogen, or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy, mono-, di- or tri-~~  
~~—halogen, amino, (C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl)amino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl)amino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl~~  
~~—sulfonyl)amino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkanoyl)amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, tetrazolyl,~~

~~triazolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl  
wherein said pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl are optionally substituted by mono-  
or di-oxo;~~

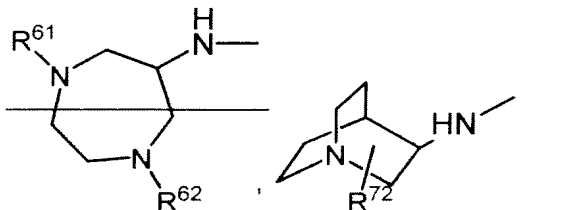
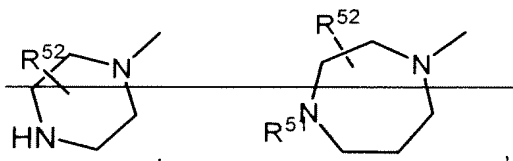
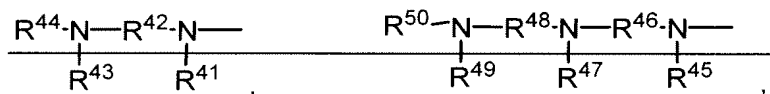
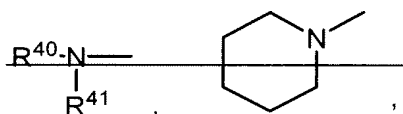
A ring represents a 3 to 8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, in which the  
nitrogen atom N<sup>A</sup> is the only hetero atom; and

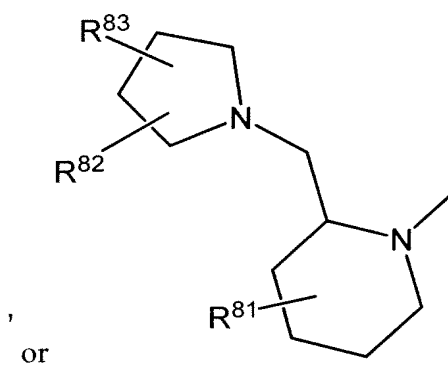
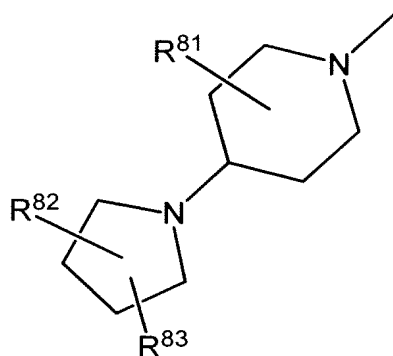
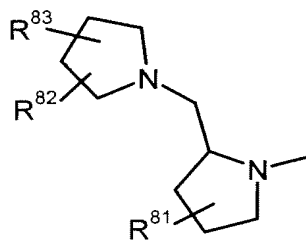
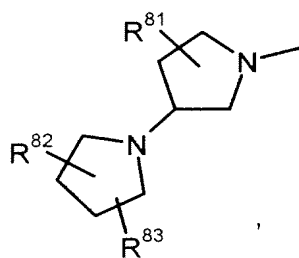
B ring represents a 3 to 8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, in which the  
nitrogen atom N<sup>B</sup> is the only hetero atom;

~~C ring and D ring together form a 7 to 15 membered diazabicyclic ring; and~~

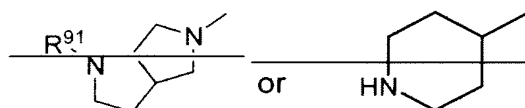
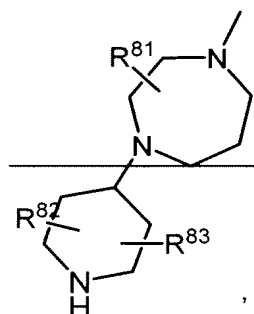
~~E ring represents a 5 to 8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, in which the  
nitrogen atom N<sup>E</sup> is the only hetero atom.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The compound~~benzenesulfonamide derivative~~ of the formula  
(I), its tautomeric or stereoisomeric form, or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein R<sup>4</sup> represents





or



wherein:

$R^{40}$  represents  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl having a substituent selected from the group consisting of 2-oxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl, and 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-3-yl, 4-oxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-6-yl, 2,5-dioxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2,6-dioxo-piperidin-1-yl, and 2,6-dioxo-piperidin-3-yl, piperidin-1-yl, 2-yl, 3-yl or 4-yl (wherein said piperidin is optionally substituted by mono or di-oxo),

~~hexahydroazepin-1-yl, 2-yl, 3-yl or 4-yl (wherein said hexahydroazepin is optionally substituted by mono- or di-oxo), and 7-oxa-bicyclo[4.1.0]hept-3-yl optionally substituted by amino;~~

~~R<sup>41</sup>—represents hydrogen, cyclopentyl or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl optionally substituted by amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl amino, di-(C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl)amino, or 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl;~~

~~R<sup>42</sup>—represents C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylene substituted by carboxy or cyclohexyl substituted by mono- or di-hydroxy;~~

~~R<sup>41</sup> and R<sup>42</sup> may form, together with adjacent N-atom, a 5- or 6-membered saturated heterocyclic ring;~~

~~with the proviso that when R<sup>41</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl optionally substituted by amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkylamino, or di(C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl)amino, R<sup>42</sup> is hydroxy substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkylene or carboxy substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkylene;~~

~~R<sup>43</sup>—represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy;~~

~~R<sup>44</sup>—represents C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or carboxy;~~

~~with the proviso that when R<sup>41</sup> and R<sup>42</sup> form, together with adjacent N-atom, a 5- or 6-membered saturated heterocyclic ring, R<sup>44</sup> is hydroxy substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl or carboxy substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl;~~

~~R<sup>45</sup>, R<sup>47</sup>, R<sup>49</sup> and R<sup>50</sup> independently represent hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;~~

~~R<sup>46</sup> and R<sup>48</sup> independently represent C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkylene optionally substituted hydroxy or carboxy;~~

~~R<sup>51</sup>—represents hydrogen, cyclopentyl, ethyl or methyl;~~

~~R<sup>52</sup>—represents methoxycarbonyl or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl substituted by methoxycarbonyl, methanesulfonylamino, acetamido, indolyl, tetrazolyl, 1,2,3-triazolyl, 1,2,4-triazolyl, 1,2,5-triazolyl, 1,3,4-triazolyl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl, 2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-3-yl, 4-oxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-6-yl, 2,5-dioxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2,6-dioxo-piperidin-1-yl, or 2,6-dioxo-piperidin-3-yl;~~

~~R<sup>61</sup> and R<sup>62</sup> independently represents benzyl or phenethyl;~~

R<sup>72</sup> represents hydrogen, carboxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkanoyl, amino, (C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl)amino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl)amino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl)amino carbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy, carboxy, or mono-, di- or tri-halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkoxy optionally substituted by mono-, di- or tri-halogen, pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl wherein said pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl are optionally substituted by mono-

or di- oxo;

$R^{81}$  represents hydrogen, methoxycarbonyl or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl substituted by 2-oxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl, 2,5- dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl 2-oxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-3-yl, 4-oxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-6-yl, 2,5-dioxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2,6-dioxo-piperidin-1-yl, or 2,6-dioxo-piperidin-3-yl;

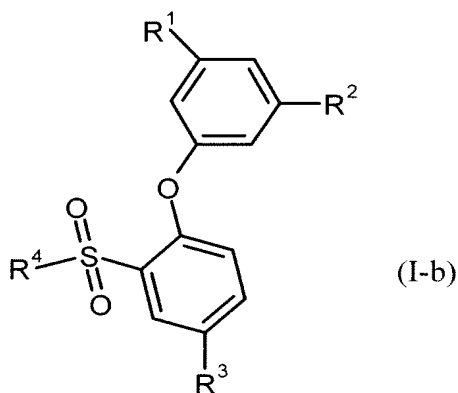
$R^{82}$  represents hydrogen, hydroxy or hydroxy substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl; and

$R^{83}$  represents hydrogen, hydroxy or carboxy;

with the proviso that when  $R^{82}$  and  $R^{83}$  are hydrogen at the same time,  $R^{81}$  is other than hydrogen, or when  $R^{81}$  and  $R^{83}$  are hydrogen at the same time,  $R^{82}$  is other than hydrogen; and

$R^{91}$  — ~~represents benzyl or phenethyl.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The compound~~benzenesulfonamide derivative~~ of claim 1, wherein the derivative is of the formula (I-b), its tautomeric or stereoisomeric form, or a salt thereof:



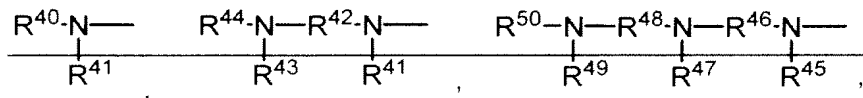
wherein:

$R^1$  represents fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, or nitro;

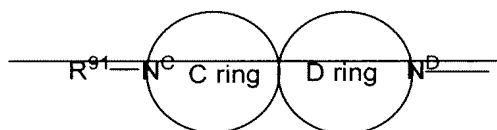
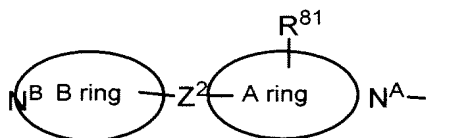
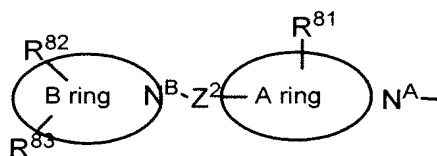
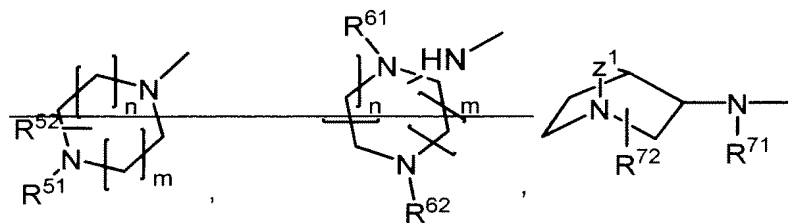
$R^2$  represents fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, or nitro;

$R^3$  represents acetyl, cyano, or tetrazolyl;

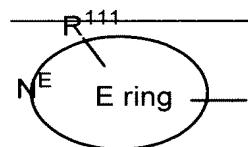
$R^4$  represents







or



wherein:

$R^{40}$  represents  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl substituted by pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl wherein said pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl are optionally substituted by mono- or di-oxo, 7-oxa-bicyclo[4.1.0]hept-3-yl optionally having 1 or 2 substituents selected from the group consisting of amino,  $(C_{1-6}$ -alkyl)amino and di $(C_{1-6}$ -alkyl)amino, or a 5 to 8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring containing 1 or 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N and O and optionally having from 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino, oxo and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

$R^{41}$  represents hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl optionally substituted by amino,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkylamino, di $(C_{1-6}$ -alkyl)amino, or 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl, or a  $C_{3-8}$ -cycloalkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy;

or

~~R<sup>40</sup> and R<sup>41</sup> may form, together with adjacent N atom, a 5 to 8 membered saturated  
heterocyclic ring optionally interrupted by O;~~

~~R<sup>42</sup> represents C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkylene optionally substituted by hydroxy or carboxy, or a C<sub>5-8</sub>  
cycloalkyl substituted by at least one hydroxy and moreover optionally 1 or 2  
substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino, oxo and C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkyl;~~

~~or~~

~~R<sup>41</sup> and R<sup>42</sup> may form, together with adjacent N atom, a 5 to 8 membered saturated  
heterocyclic ring optionally interrupted by NH or O, wherein said 5 to 8  
membered saturated heterocyclic ring is substituted by mono or di-oxo;  
with the proviso that when R<sup>41</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl optionally substituted by amino,  
C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkylamino, or di(C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl)amino, R<sup>42</sup> is hydroxy substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkylene or  
carboxy substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkylene;~~

~~R<sup>43</sup> represents hydrogen, or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or  
carboxy;~~

~~R<sup>44</sup> represents C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or carboxy;  
with the proviso that when R<sup>41</sup> and R<sup>42</sup> form, together with adjacent N atom, a 5 to 8  
membered saturated heterocyclic ring substituted by mono or di-oxo, R<sup>44</sup> represents  
hydroxy substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl or carboxy substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl;~~

~~R<sup>45</sup>, R<sup>47</sup>, R<sup>49</sup> and R<sup>50</sup> independently represent hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl;~~

~~R<sup>46</sup> and R<sup>48</sup> independently represent C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkylene optionally substituted hydroxy or  
carboxy;~~

~~n represents an integer selected from 1 to 3;~~

~~m represents an integer selected from 0 to 3;~~

~~R<sup>51</sup> represents hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, or a 3 to 8 membered saturated ring optionally  
interrupted by NH or O;~~

~~R<sup>52</sup> represents hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkoxy carbonyl, or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl substituted by N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkylsulfonyl)amino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkanoyl)amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkoxy carbonyl, tetrazolyl,  
triazolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, or pyrrolidinyl optionally  
substituted by mono or di-oxo, or piperidinyl optionally substituted by mono  
or di-oxo;~~

~~with the proviso that when R<sup>51</sup> and R<sup>52</sup> are hydrogen at the same time, R<sup>52</sup> is tetrazolyl  
or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkanoyl, or when R<sup>51</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, R<sup>52</sup> is other than hydrogen;~~

~~R<sup>61</sup> and R<sup>62</sup> independently represent hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy, carboxy, phenyl or mono-, di- or tri halogen;~~

R<sup>71</sup> represents hydrogen, or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by amino, hydroxy, carboxy, pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl, wherein said pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl are optionally substituted by mono- or di- oxo;

R<sup>72</sup> represents hydrogen, carboxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkanoyl, amino, (C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino carbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy, carboxy, or mono-, di- or tri- halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy optionally substituted by mono-, di- or tri- halogen, pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl, wherein said pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl are optionally substituted by mono- or di- oxo;

Z<sup>1</sup> represents -[CH<sub>2</sub>]<sub>p</sub>-, wherein p represents an integer 1 or 2;

R<sup>81</sup> represents hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl, or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl substituted by pyrrolidinyl, or piperidinyl, wherein said pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl are optionally substituted by mono- or di- oxo;

R<sup>82</sup> represents hydrogen, hydroxy, carboxy or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl substituted by hydroxy, amino, or carboxy,

R<sup>83</sup> represents hydrogen, hydroxy, carboxy or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl substituted by hydroxy, amino, or carboxy,

with the proviso that when R<sup>81</sup> is hydrogen, R<sup>82</sup> or R<sup>83</sup> is other than hydrogen;

Z<sup>2</sup> represents -[CH<sub>2</sub>]<sub>q</sub>-,

wherein

q represents an integer selected from 0 to 3;

~~R<sup>91</sup> represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by phenyl;~~

~~R<sup>111</sup> represents hydrogen, carboxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkanoyl, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl) aminocarbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy optionally substituted by mono-, di- or tri- halogen, or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy, mono-, di- or tri- halogen, amino, (C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl)amino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl)amino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl sulfonyl)amino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub> alkanoyl)amino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl, tetrazolyl, triazolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl wherein said pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl are optionally substituted by mono- or di- oxo;~~

A ring represents a 3 to 8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, in which the nitrogen

atom N<sup>A</sup> is the only hetero atom; and  
B ring represents a 3 to 8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, in which the nitrogen  
atom N<sup>B</sup> is the only hetero atom;  
~~C ring and D ring together form a 7 to 15 membered diazabicyclic ring; and~~  
~~E ring represents a 5 to 8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, in which the nitrogen~~  
~~atom N<sup>E</sup> is the only hetero atom.~~

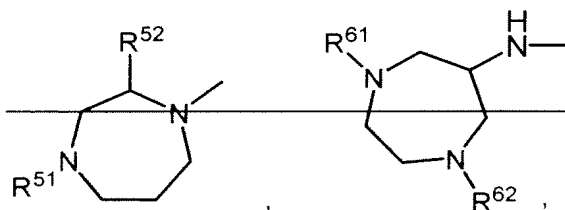
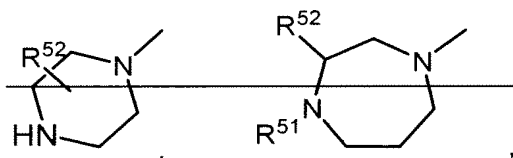
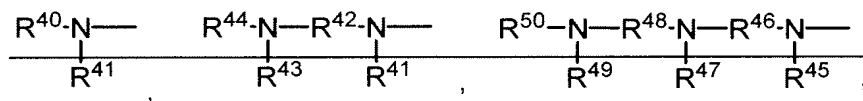
4. (Currently Amended) The compound~~benzenesulfonamide derivative~~ of claim  
3~~formula (I-b)~~, its tautomeric or stereoisomeric form, or a salt  
wherein:

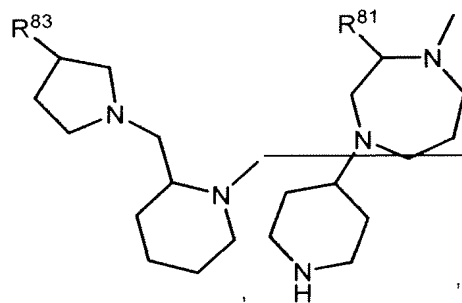
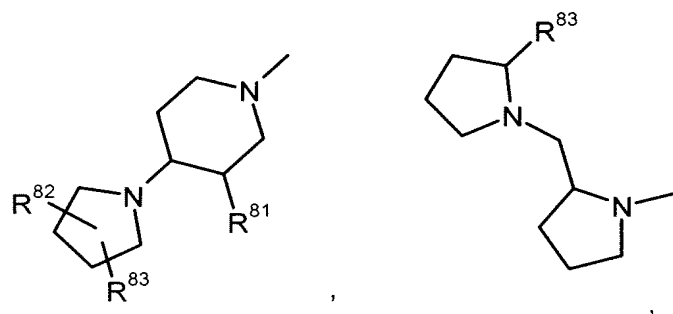
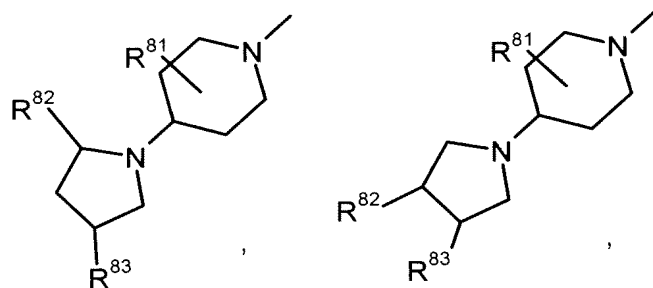
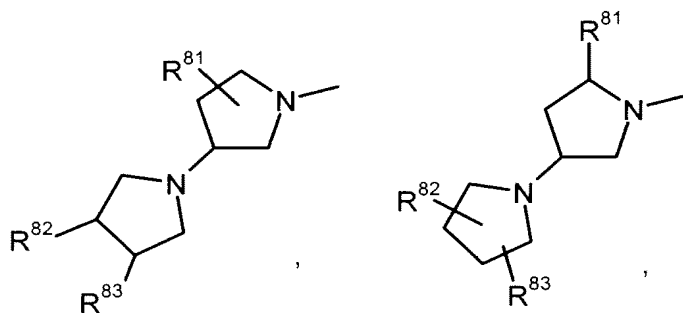
R<sup>1</sup> represents fluoro, chloro or bromo;

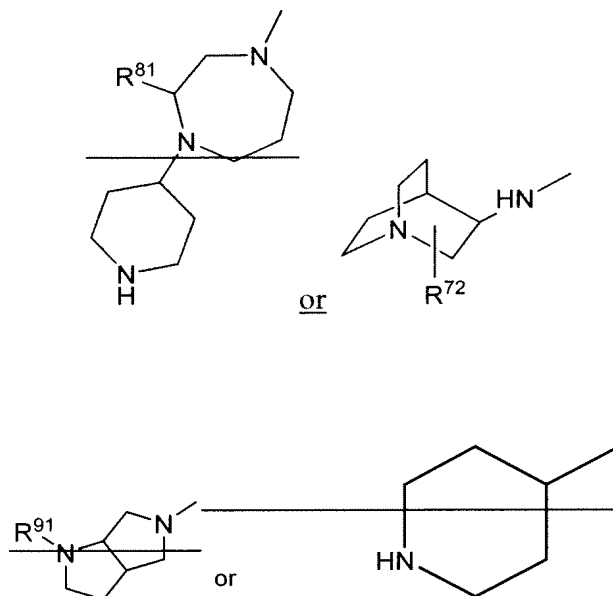
R<sup>2</sup> represents fluoro, chloro or bromo;

R<sup>3</sup> represents cyano;

R<sup>4</sup> represents







wherein:

$R^{40}$  — ~~represents  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl having a substituent selected from the group consisting of~~  
~~2-oxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl, and 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2-~~  
~~oxo-piperidin-3-yl, 4-oxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-6-yl, 2,5-dioxo-~~  
~~piperidin-1-yl, 2,6-dioxo-piperidin-1-yl, and 2,6-dioxo-piperidin-3-yl,~~  
~~piperidin-1-yl, 2-yl, 3-yl or 4-yl (wherein said piperidin is optionally~~  
~~substituted by mono or di-oxo), hexahydroazepin-1-yl, 2-yl, 3-yl or 4-yl~~  
~~(wherein said hexahydroazepin is optionally substituted by mono or di-~~  
~~oxo), and 7-oxa-bicyclo[4.1.0]hept-3-yl optionally substituted by amino;~~

$R^{41}$  — ~~represents hydrogen, cyclopentyl or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl optionally substituted by amino,~~  
 ~~$C_{1-6}$ -alkyl-amino, di- $(C_{1-6}$ -alkyl)amino, or 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl;~~

$R^{42}$  — ~~represents  $C_{1-4}$ -alkylene substituted by carboxy or cyclohexyl substituted by~~  
~~mono or di-hydroxy;~~

$R^{41}$  and  $R^{42}$  — ~~may form, together with adjacent N-atom, a 5 or 6-membered saturated~~  
~~heterocyclic ring;~~

with the proviso that when  $R^{41}$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl optionally substituted by amino,  
 $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl-amino, or di- $(C_{1-6}$ -alkyl)amino,  $R^{42}$  is hydroxy-substituted  $C_{1-6}$ -alkylene or  
carboxy-substituted  $C_{1-6}$ -alkylene;

$R^{43}$  — ~~represents hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy;~~

$R^{44}$  — ~~represents  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or carboxy;~~

~~with the proviso that when R<sup>41</sup> and R<sup>42</sup> form, together with adjacent N atom, a 5 or 6 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, R<sup>44</sup> is hydroxy substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or carboxy substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl;~~

~~R<sup>45</sup>, R<sup>47</sup>, R<sup>49</sup> and R<sup>50</sup> independently represent hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;~~

~~R<sup>46</sup> and R<sup>48</sup> independently represent C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene optionally substituted hydroxy or ——— carboxy;~~

~~R<sup>51</sup> ——— represents hydrogen, cyclopentyl, ethyl or methyl;~~

~~R<sup>52</sup> ——— represents methoxycarbonyl or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl substituted by methoxycarbonyl, ——— methanesulfonylamino, acetamido, indolyl, tetrazolyl, 1,2,3-triazolyl, 1,2,4-triazolyl, 1,2,5-triazolyl, 1,3,4-triazolyl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl, ——— 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-3-yl, 4-oxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-6-yl, 2,5-dioxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2,6-dioxo-piperidin-1-yl, or 2,6-dioxo-piperidin-3-yl;~~

~~R<sup>61</sup> and R<sup>62</sup> independently represents benzyl or phenethyl;~~

R<sup>72</sup> represents hydrogen, carboxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkanoyl, amino, (C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, N-(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino carbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy, carboxy, or mono-, di- or tri- halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy optionally substituted by mono-, di- or tri- halogen, pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl wherein said pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl are optionally substituted by mono- or di- oxo;

R<sup>81</sup> represents hydrogen, methoxycarbonyl or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl substituted by 2-oxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl, 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl, or 2-oxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-3-yl, 4-oxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2-oxo-piperidin-6-yl, 2,5-dioxo-piperidin-1-yl, 2,6-dioxo-piperidin-1-yl, or 2,6-dioxo-piperidin-3-yl;

R<sup>82</sup> represents hydrogen, hydroxy or hydroxy substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl; and

R<sup>83</sup> represents hydrogen, hydroxy or carboxy;

with the proviso that when R<sup>82</sup> and R<sup>83</sup> are hydrogen at the same time, R<sup>81</sup> is other than hydrogen, or when R<sup>81</sup> and R<sup>83</sup> are hydrogen at the same time, R<sup>82</sup> is other than hydrogen; and

~~R<sup>91</sup> ——— represents benzyl or phenethyl.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The A compound of claim 1 ~~benzenesulfonamide derivative~~, its tautomeric or stereoisomeric form, or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof ~~as~~

~~claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, wherein said compound~~benzenesulfonamide  
~~derivative of the formula~~ is selected from the group consisting of:

~~3-(1-Benzyl-hexahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-b]pyrrole-5-sulfonyl)-4-(3,5-dichloro-phenoxy)-benzonitrile;~~

~~N-{4-[5-Cyano-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenoxy)-benzenesulfonyl]-piperazin-2-ylmethyl}-methanesulfonamide;~~

~~N-{4-[5-Cyano-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenoxy)-benzenesulfonyl]-piperazin-2-ylmethyl}-acetamide;~~

~~N-{1-[5-Cyano-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenoxy)-benzenesulfonyl]-piperazin-2-ylmethyl}-methanesulfonamide;~~

~~N-{1-[5-Cyano-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenoxy)-benzenesulfonyl]-piperazin-2-ylmethyl}-acetamide;~~

~~4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-[(3R)-(2-hydroxy-ethylamino)-pyrrolidine-1-sulfonyl]-benzonitrile;~~

~~3-(2-Aminomethyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-4-(3,5-dichloro-phenoxy)-benzonitrile dihydrochloride;~~

~~1-[5-Cyano-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenoxy)-benzenesulfonyl]-[1,4]diazepane-2-carboxylic acid-methyl ester;~~

~~4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-[3(S)-(1H-indol-3-ylmethyl)-piperazine-1-sulfonyl]-benzonitrile;~~

~~4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-[2(S)-(1H-indol-3-ylmethyl)-piperazine-1-sulfonyl]-benzonitrile;~~

~~4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-[2-(2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)-piperazine-1-sulfonyl]-benzonitrile;~~

~~N-{1-[5-Cyano-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenoxy)-benzenesulfonyl]-[1,4]diazepan-2-ylmethyl}-methanesulfonamide;~~

~~1-[4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-(piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-ethanone;~~

~~(R)-N-(1-Aza-bicyclo[2.2.2]oct-3-yl)-5-cyano-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenoxy)-benzenesulfonamide;~~



(S)-N-(1-Aza-bicyclo[2.2.2]oct-3-yl)-5-cyano-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenoxy)-benzenesulfonamide;

4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-{4-[(2S)-(1-hydroxy-1-methyl-ethyl)-pyrrolidin-1-yl]-piperidine-1-sulfonyl}-benzonitrile;

~~4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-(3-tetrazol-2-ylmethyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-benzonitrile;~~

~~4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-(3-[1,2,4]triazol-1-ylmethyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-benzonitrile;~~

~~4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-(2-[1,2,4]triazol-1-ylmethyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-benzonitrile;~~

5-Cyano-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenoxy)-N-(2-dimethylamino-ethyl)-N-[2-(2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl)-ethyl]-benzenesulfonamide;

~~4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-[3-(2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)-piperazine-1-sulfonyl]-benzonitrile;~~

4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-[3-(2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)-4-pyrrolidin-1-yl-piperidine-1-sulfonyl]-benzonitrile;

4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-{4-[(2S)-hydroxymethyl-pyrrolidin-1-yl]-piperidine-1-sulfonyl}-benzonitrile;

4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-{(2S)-[(2S)-hydroxymethyl-pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl]-pyrrolidine-1-sulfonyl}-benzonitrile;

N-(1-aza-bicyclo[2.2.2]oct-3-yl)-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenylsulfanyl)-5-nitro-benzenesulfonamide; ~~and~~

~~4-(3,5-Dichloro-phenoxy)-3-(piperidine-4-sulfonyl)-benzonitrile~~

4-(3,5-dichlorophenoxy)-3-(4-((3S,4S)-3,4-dihydroxypyrrolidin-1-yl)piperidin-1-ylsulfonyl)benzonitrile;

(3'S,5'S)-methyl-1'-(5-cyano-2-(3,5-dichlorophenoxy)phenylsulfonyl)-1,3'-bipyrrolidine-5'-carboxylate;

3-(4-((3S,4S)-3-(tert-butyl dimethylsilyloxy)-4-hydroxypyrrolidin-1-yl)piperidin-1-ylsulfonyl)-4-(3,5-dichlorophenoxy)benzonitrile;

4-(3,5-dichlorophenoxy)-3-((3S,3'S,4S)-3,4-dihydroxy-1,3'-bipyrrolidin-1'-ylsulfonyl)benzonitrile;

(S)-1-(1-(5-cyano-2-(3,5-dichlorophenoxy)phenylsulfonyl)piperidin-4-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;

4-(3,5-dichlorophenoxy)-3-(2-((3-hydroxypyrrolidin-1-yl)methyl)piperidin-1-ylsulfonyl)benzonitrile; and

(R)-5-cyano-2-(3,5-dichlorophenoxy)-N-(2-(2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)-N-(1-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-3-yl)benzenesulfonamide.

6. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1 ~~the benzenesulfonamide derivative of the formula (I)~~, its tautomeric or stereoisomeric form, or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ as an active ingredient.
7. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition ~~of as claimed in claim 6~~, further comprising one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.
8. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition ~~of as claimed in claim 6~~, wherein said compound ~~benzenesulfonamide derivative of the formula (I)~~, its tautomeric or stereoisomeric form, or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof is a CCR3 antagonist.
9. (Currently Amended) The ~~medicament~~ pharmaceutical composition ~~of as claimed in claim 6~~ suitable for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of an inflammatory disorder or disease.
10. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition ~~of as claimed in claim 9~~, wherein said inflammatory disorder or disease is selected from the group consisting of asthma, rhinitis, allergic diseases, and autoimmune pathologies.
11. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition ~~of as claimed in claim 6~~ suitable for the treatment or prevention of a disease selected from the group consisting of HIV, lung granuloma, and Alzheimer's diseases.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for treating or preventing a CCR3 related disorder or disease comprising ~~by which comprises~~ administering a compound of claim 1 or its tautomeric or stereoisomeric form, or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said disorder or disease is an inflammatory or immunoregulatory disorder or disease.
14. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said disorder or disease is selected from the group consisting of asthma, rhinitis, allergic diseases, and autoimmune pathologies.
15. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said disorder or disease is selected from the group consisting of HIV, lung granuloma, and Alzheimer's diseases.
16. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said benzenesulfonamide derivative, its tautomeric or stereoisomeric form, or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof is formulated with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.
17. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling an inflammatory or immunoregulatory disorder or disease in humans and animals which comprises administering a CCR3-antagonistically effective amount of at least one compound of ~~according to~~ claim 1.
18. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~or preventing~~ a CCR3 related disorder or disease comprising ~~by which comprises~~ administering a compound of claim 3 or its tautomeric or stereoisomeric form, or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.
19. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~or preventing~~ a CCR3 related disorder or disease comprising ~~by which comprises~~ administering a compound of claim 4 or its tautomeric or stereoisomeric form, or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.
20. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7, wherein the excipient is an inert substance such as a carrier, a diluent, a flavoring agent, a sweetener, a lubricant, a solubilizer, a suspending agent, a binder, a tablet disintegrating agent or an encapsulating agent.

21. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the excipient is an inert substance such as a carrier, a diluent, a flavoring agent, a sweetener, a lubricant, a solubilizer, a suspending agent, a binder, a tablet disintegrating agent or an encapsulating agent.